

compared with the previous year, and the smallest since 1896, when they were 386,000,000 feet. The port of St. John shows a falling off of 25,000,000 feet, and Miramichi 20,000,000 feet.

No complete returns are obtainable showing the shipments to the United States, which were quite heavy, that market having absorbed a large quantity of spruce clapboards, cedar shingles, and lath. From the consular district of St. John the shipments of lumber, shingles and lath to the United States were valued at \$941,851, as against \$1,105,714 in 1902, or a decrease of \$163,963. The statement for 1903 as furnished by the United States Consulate is as follows:

LUMBER EXPORTS FROM ST. JOHN, N.B., TO UNITED STATES, 1903.		
Canadian lumber	\$107,821	
American lumber	435,664	\$543,485
(equal to 54,348,500 feet)		
Canadian laths	\$187,295	
American laths	57,668	244,963
Canadian shingles	\$ 53,021	
American shingles	100,382	153,403
Total		\$941,851

During the early part of the year there was a brisk demand for spruce clapboards for shipment to Boston and other eastern points, where for a time they sold as high as \$45 for No. 1, wholesale. This price was not held through the entire year, however, although the market remained firm. New Brunswick cedar shingles opened the year strong, with extras selling readily at \$3.50 for Boston delivery. Towards midsummer competition from red cedars resulted in a decline of 15 cents and for the balance of the year the shingle market was irregular, closing with the price of white cedars at about \$3.40 for extras. There is a considerable stock in the hands of manufacturers, but the winter production is likely to be smaller than usual. The increase in the stumpage dues on cedar timber, which has just been put into effect, should have a tendency to enhance the value of cedar products of all kinds. The trans-Atlantic shipments from the different ports of New Brunswick for the past two years were as follows:

SHIPMENTS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK BY PORTS, 1902 AND 1903.		
Port.	1902. Sup. feet.	1903. Sup. feet.
St. John	199,858,736	174,360,562
Miramichi	123,000,000	102,944,276
Dalhousie	26,344,112	20,910,384
Campbellton	24,142,117	18,075,362
Bathurst	20,874,278	20,770,642
Sackville	16,526,150	8,545,560
Moncton	27,450,500	34,272,750
Shediac	6,855,637	3,395,314
Richibucto and Buctouche	7,468,528	8,382,129

TOTAL TRANS-ATLANTIC SHIPMENTS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK FOR PAST 10 YEARS.		
Year.	Sup. feet.	
1894	326,000,000	
1895	291,000,000	
1896	386,000,000	
1897	494,000,000	
1898	412,000,000	
1899	426,000,000	
1900	489,000,000	
1901	399,000,000	
1902	452,000,000	
1903	391,000,000	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF SHIPMENTS FROM ST. JOHN FOR TWO YEARS.		
Port.	1902. Sup. feet.	1903. Sup. feet.
Liverpool	40,273,057	37,515,600
Bristol Channel	48,810,568	30,337,578
Barrow	3,442,540	5,234,805
London	9,284,657	8,208,164
Manchester	33,652,133	24,820,185
River Mersey	4,264,154	1,748,944
Glasgow	15,463,622	19,295,791
Greenock		863,056
Limerick	3,518,190	4,578,164
Belfast	3,341,426	14,181,266
Sligo		394,177
Dublin	12,394,491	3,930,494
Bantry	801,035	805,644
Londonderry	1,566,856	2,785,292

Cork	1,872,574	
Drogheda	454,606	
Spain	2,851,931	1,657,775
Australia	3,192,193	1,638,263
Africa	825,300	
Other Ports	13,519,944	16,365,364

Total	199,858,736	174,360,562
SHIPMENTS FROM PORT OF ST. JOHN.		
Shippers.	1902.	1903.
W. M. Mackay	107,253,326	98,972,137
A. Gibson Ry. & Mfg. Co.	35,046,877	25,619,521
Geo. McKean	34,392,193	29,665,471
Other Shippers	23,166,340	20,103,433

Total	199,858,736	174,360,562
SHIPMENTS FROM ST. JOHN TO TRANS-ATLANTIC PORTS FOR PAST 10 YEARS.		
Year.	Sup. ft. deals, etc.	

1894	153,473,076	
1895	126,449,706	
1896	167,249,707	
1897	244,399,066	
1898	184,954,343	
1899	184,192,435	
1900	236,459,838	
1901	176,295,257	
1902	200,662,534	
1903	174,360,562	

SHIPMENTS FROM MIRAMICHI TO TRANS-ATLANTIC PORTS FOR PAST 10 YEARS.		
Year.	Sup. ft. deals, etc.	

1894	96,000,000	
1895	82,000,000	
1896	106,000,000	
1897	102,000,000	
1898	113,000,000	
1899	129,000,000	
1900	122,000,000	
1901	129,000,000	
1902	123,000,000	
1903	103,000,000	

DISTRIBUTION OF MIRAMICHI SHIPMENTS, 1903.		
Country.	No. of Vessels.	Sup. ft. deals, boards, etc.
England	44	63,862,026
Ireland	29	31,461,655
France	3	6,744,000
South America	1	876,595

Total	77	102,944,276
There was also shipped to England 1,266,573 feet of pool wood.		

The year was more profitable to the lumber manufacturers of Nova Scotia than to their confreres in New Brunswick. They did not suffer to the same extent from drouth, and a large and profitable trade was done with South America and the West Indies. These markets absorbed a great deal of lumber with comparative ease, and at the close of the year prices were advancing. South American stock which in 1902 sold at \$15.50 per thousand readily brought \$16.50 last year. British deals were sold at an advance of about ten per cent. The advance, however, did not go into the pockets of the manufacturers, but represented higher wages and other increases in the cost of logging operations. Mr. Alfred Dickie, of Stewiacke, was the largest shipper from the province, exporting 55,000,000 feet of deals, besides a large quantity of lath. A considerable quantity of hemlock lumber was shipped from Nova Scotia. Unfortunately, it has been impossible to obtain the complete returns of shipments from Nova Scotia.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The year was one of unsettled conditions for the lumber trade of British Columbia. Business started out prosperously. Mills were operating to their full capacity, and there was an active demand for lumber. The great expansion in the production, however, was more than the markets could stand, and before many months passed there were evidences that the supply was gradually exceeding the demand. The manufacturing capacity which was greatly increased in 1902, was further enlarged last year, when several large mills were completed and put into operation for the first season. In the Kootenay district alone 109,000,000 feet of lumber was manufactured. The situation promised to become somewhat serious, when steps were taken by the manufacturers to restrict the production. The

British Columbia Lumber and Shingle Manufacturers' Association, acting in conjunction with the Mountain Lumber Manufacturers' Association composed of the interior mills, was successful in regulating the supply, with the result that prices during the year were well maintained.

The over-production in shingles was more apparent than in lumber, but in the fall an arrangement was affected for the disposal of the combined output in a manner which, it is expected, will ensure a steady market during the current year.

Apart from the home consumption of lumber, which was above the average, especially in Vancouver, where it increased about 30 per cent. during the year, the most important factor of the lumber industry is the Northwest market, and that factor will be more and more apparent in the future. In respect to that market, however, the interior mills of British Columbia are in a much better position to compete than those of the coast. The latter have a 40-cent rate with two mountain ranges, against a 15-cent rate in the mountains, with only one mountain range to cross.

The export lumber trade of British Columbia shows a growth for the year, the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Company having greatly increased their shipments from Chemainus. The only other exporting firm is the British Columbia Mills, Timber and Trading Company of Vancouver. The total exports were approximately 62,000,000 feet, as against 56,000,000 feet in 1902. The Victoria Lumber Company exported 32,000,000 feet and the B. C. Mills, Timber and Trading Company 30,000,000 feet.

The significant feature of the year's export business is the increased trade with South Africa, the shipments being more than double those of the previous year. A much larger business was also done by British Columbia lumbermen with the United Kingdom, and there was a slight increase in the shipments to South America. On the other hand, the trade with Australia shows a marked falling off. The figures in detail for two years are given below:

SHIPMENTS BY COUNTRIES.		
	1902 Feet B. M.	1903 Feet B. M.
Australia	20,632,584	5,305,185
South America	8,815,833	10,128,027
United Kingdom	8,174,134	15,645,666
China and Japan	5,053,444	5,466,608
South Africa	10,675,008	21,142,418
United States	875,843	1,018,916
Fiji Islands	20,751	161,653
Germany	38,033	
Calcutta		1,761,907
Belgium	950,449	
Total	55,855,405	61,942,586

DIAGRAMS OF TIMBER SUPPLY.

We reproduce on the opposite page diagrams showing the periodical estimates of the duration of the supply of Canadian spruce, Canadian pine and Baltic deals at London, England. The diagrams make a comparison with the averages of the five years preceding 1900, and will doubtless be found interesting.

It will be seen that of the supply of the past four years, the heaviest stock of Canadian pine, 45 per cent. above the average, was on 30th April and 31st July, 1901, and 28th February, 1902. Throughout the whole of the year 1903 the supply was above the average, although at no time did it reach the maximum of the two previous years. The heaviest stock was on 30th June, after which time it diminished, and on 31st December was the smallest of the year. Spruce, likewise, reached the highest limit last year on 30th June. The lightest stock was on 31st October, gradually increasing during November and December to 20 per cent. above the average.